

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this legislation.

#### AS USUAL, REPUBLICAN TAX CUTS ARE FOR THE WEALTHY

(Mr. OLVER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, life in America is always changing these days, but one thing that Americans know never changes. That is, when Republicans say cut taxes for the middle class, they really mean cut taxes for the wealthy. Of course, they want us to believe that their tax cut is fair and that it is for the middle class, but their plan says otherwise.

The fact of their plan is that one-third of all the tax cut goes to the top 5 percent of the American people. Two-thirds of their tax cut goes to the top 20 percent. By contrast, in the President's plan two-thirds of the tax cut goes to the middle class, of the 60 percent of Americans whose income lies between \$15,000 and \$75,000 a year. Under the Republican plan, the rich become very much richer. Under their plan, the crumbs from the plate go to the middle class, that broad middle class of 60 percent, and the poor lose their shirts. That is not fair. In fact, it is even class warfare.

#### CONFUSION AND DISHONESTY IN DISCUSSION ON TAX CUTS

(Mr. THUNE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THUNE. Mr. Speaker, there seems to be a lot of confusion in the Chamber this morning. To me it is really quite simple. If you pay Federal income taxes, you are going to get a lower tax burden. If you do not, you do not get lower taxes. I think that is a pretty clear distinction.

But we have a problem here because there is a lot of confusion and distortion about what the facts are. The Treasury Department states that there are 21.2 million families or people in America who are making more than \$75,000 a year. That is double the census number.

I am going to tell the Members why. Because in their number they include not only adjusted gross income, but IRA's and Keogh, Social Security, life insurance, inside buildup pensions, employer-provided fringe benefits, and imputed rental income that you would get if you rented your house that you are currently living in.

Talk about doctoring the numbers. All we are talking about is adjusted gross income as adjusted gross income. We have to talk honestly if we are going to have an honest debate. There is a lot of dishonesty in this town right now. Frankly, anybody who buys into that kind of funky bookkeeping must be growing a very long nose.

#### DEMOCRATS HAVE THE FAIRER TAX PROPOSAL

(Mr. WATT of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WATT of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this chart tells the whole story. This is the percentage of the tax cut benefit that goes to the middle 60 percent of the people in this country, 60 percent of the people who work every single day. They are not on welfare. They work.

Under the President's tax proposal, 67 percent of the benefit of his proposal would go to those people. Under the House version of the tax bill, 32 percent of the benefit would go to that 60 percent of the people. Under the Senate version of the bill, 34 percent of the benefit would go to that 60 percent of the people. Now, tell me which tax cut proposal is fairer? What happens to the benefit that is not shown here in the Republican's proposal? It goes to the top 20 percent of the people.

#### REPUBLICANS' TAX PLAN TARGETS TAX CUTS TO AMERICANS WHO PAY TAXES

(Mr. GANSKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GANSKE. Mr. Speaker, I just want to provide a few facts for this debate on tax cuts for the wealthy, quote unquote. I do not normally quote from Albert Hunt's column in the Wall Street Journal but I am going to today, because I think he has his numbers right.

If we take a family of four with two children that are earning \$23,000 a year, they would pay approximately \$700 in Federal income tax. That would be what they would owe the Government in Federal income tax. However, under current law they would qualify for an earned income tax credit of about \$1,700. So if we deduct what they owe the Government from the amount that they get back from the Government, they are getting a check back from the Government for \$1,000.

Our tax bill is focused and targeted on families who are still sending funds in to the Government for their taxes. That is why those families that are getting a check back from the Government do not qualify under the Republican plan. I think that is what the majority of people in my district want.

#### THE DEMOCRATIC TAX PACKAGE ACKNOWLEDGES WORKING AMERICANS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thought that we could civilly discuss this very important issue

of taxes. Unfortunately, Al Hunt also in that article said that a police officer making \$23,000 a year would get nothing under the House and Senate proposal.

But let me really focus the Members. A single mother lives with her 7-year-old daughter in Texas. She has been working as a bank teller for several years. She gets \$20,000 a year. She tallies up her tax. She pays \$1,200 in Federal income tax. She gets a \$1,150 earned income tax credit. However, she pays \$1,500 in payroll taxes, not to mention what her company pays for her.

How does the gentleman dare say this working woman making \$20,000 should not get the \$500 a year tax credit and claim that she is on welfare? How dare he insult those single working mothers who are every day taking care of their children? I am ashamed. The Democratic alternative, the President's bill, acknowledges working Americans.

Let me just simply say that the OTA, and that is the Treasury Office, its tax analysis, an independent body has said, provides a more comprehensive measure, more consistent with how economists would measure the bill's benefits to individuals, meaning the President's calculus is more accurate than the Republicans.

This is a ridiculous debate. Vote for working men and women and vote for the Democratic plan.

#### DEMOCRAT CLASS WARFARE WARRIORS ARE AT IT AGAIN

(Mr. PAXON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAXON. Mr. Speaker, the Democrat class warfare warriors are at it again. They want to talk about tax cuts for the rich. They seem to define the rich as anyone who pays income taxes. We do not need fancy charts from OMB or CBO or the Treasury to determine if one benefits under our Republican tax plan. It is rather easy.

No. 1, if you pay income taxes and you have children under 17, or you pay college tuition or you are trying to save for the future, or you are trying to sell your small business or your family farm, or you are trying to keep that small business or family farm in your family, you will benefit from tax relief provided under the Republican plan.

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It is time to put class warfare aside. The class warfare warriors in the Democratic Party need to take a rest. Our Republican tax relief plan is for all Americans at all stages of their lives.

#### A REPUBLICAN TAX BILL THAT BENEFITS THE RICH

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)